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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1A2g

COUNTRY	USSR	DATE DISTR.	14 JUN 50
SUBJECT	Molotov Physics Laboratory in the Vicinity of Lake Baikal	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	25X1A6a [redacted]	NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)	1
DATE OF INFO.		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	

25X1X6

[redacted]

1. The Molotov Physics Laboratory in the valley of the Ilim River in the vicinity of Lake Baikal* was still under construction at the time informant left the area (presumably in early 1949). The completion of the installation was scheduled for 1 May 1950. The laboratory, reportedly to be used in connection with the Soviet atomic energy program, is built in a heavily wooded area and lies in terrain made up of many little hills so that one group of buildings is not visible from another group of buildings. The ground in this region is hard.

2. Chief construction engineer for the entire project was Kirilov; manual construction work on the laboratory was performed by prison labor. [redacted] 25X1X6

25X1X6 [redacted]

Rail Connections

3. East and north of the bridge which crosses the Oka River at Zima (53-55N, 102-02E) is a kommandatura of railroad bridge security personnel. One kilometer east of the railroad bridge is the Oka-Zima branch line to the laboratory. The first section of this line runs from Zima to the Angara River. Coal burning steam locomotives run over this stretch.

4. A lumber mill is located on the west bank of the Angara River to the east of the railroad line (sketch shows it to be west of the railroad line). Ostensibly the branch line exists for the purpose of providing this lumber mill with railroad communication. Actually the mill serves the purpose of concealing the true nature of the railroad branch line which extends beyond to the Molotov Physics Laboratory.

5. At the point where the railroad comes to the Angara River there is a large bridge. The river banks at this point are very steep. From this bridge to the rail terminal of the laboratory area (I on attached sketch), the railroad extends in a straight line. Diesel engines are used on this section. Within the area of the laboratory development itself electric engines are used on a temporary spur rail line.

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Description of the Laboratory Development Area (See Attachment)

6. The area of the laboratory development is bordered on the northeast by the Ilim river, on the east, south, and southwest by a tributary of the Ilim. The boundary on the northwest is undetermined.

7. The central installation consists of four large buildings (A on attached sketch). This region was prohibited to informant, but from his observations at a distance he surmised that operations were already going on in these buildings. ([redacted] 25X1A6a

8. Two kilometers south of A there is a cylindrical underground construction (B) 50 m deep, 20 m in diameter, with concrete floor and walls. Contiguous to this pit is a building housing machinery of a nature unknown to informant. From the northeast section of this building a stairway enters into the circular opening of the pit.

9. At a distance of 400-500 m from B there are two large buildings (C), the foundations and flooring of which were built for the support of heavy machinery. At the time informant worked on the project, there were no machines in the buildings.

10. Approximately four kilometers east of A there are two large buildings (D) containing turbines and transformers used to step up and intensify the power produced at an electric power plant (E) located approximately one kilometer northeast of D on the western shore of a small lake. This electric power plant (E) was completed before informant left the project 25X1A6a ([redacted]) and was operated on Diesel oil.

11. About four kilometers north of A there is an underground construction shaped as indicated at point F on the attached sketch.

12. Eight kilometers north of A a building to house machinery (G) was being built underground and was half completed at the time of informant's departure. Immediately next to this building is a large cylindrical steel tower. An electrically operated narrow gauge spur railway runs from here to the tributary of the Ilim River.

13. Along the western edge of this railway and approximately three kilometers from B there are three large buildings (H) which are refineries in which materials are processed.

14. The tributary of the Ilim River separates these refineries from the railroad terminal (I) for the electrically operated narrow gauge spur railway mentioned in paragraph 12 and the rail line from Zima. Also at this point are large warehouses where all raw materials, equipment, and machinery which are consigned to the Molotov Physics Laboratory are stored. Informant saw crated machinery marked "Czechoslovakia" here.

15. Sections designated J on the attached sketch are personnel barracks, one of which is located on the north side of the Ilim tributary, the other by the small lake in the north-northeastern portion of the development.

16. At a distance of 18 km from B there is an airfield used exclusively by the laboratory. This airfield and the buildings of A are on the same parallel of latitude.

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[redacted] Comment:

*The exact position of this laboratory has not been established. An attempt is being made to clarify conflicting statements about its location.

Attachment: Installations of the Molotov Physics Laboratory